

## **Public Notice – Environmental Project**

### **PURPOSE OF NOTICE:**

The Department of Environmental Quality seeks public comment on the state's response to the environmental aspects of a proposed project located at Sandbridge in Virginia Beach, Virginia.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:**

April 24, 2009 to May 20, 2009

### **TYPE OF RESPONSE:**

Federal Consistency Determination

DEQ is reviewing a federal action to determine if it is consistent with the U.S. Coastal Zone Management Act. The act seeks to protect the quality of air, water or other natural resources in Virginia's coastal area.

### **NAME OF AGENCY PROPOSING THE PROJECT:**

Department of Defense/Department of the Army/U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers proposed beach nourishment at the Sandbridge oceanfront. The nourishment area is approximately 5 miles long and 125 feet wide and extends from the U.S. Naval Fleet Anti-Air Warfare Training Center at Dam Neck to the north to Back Bay National Wildlife Refuge to the south. The designated borrow area is Sandbridge Shoal, located approximately 3 nautical miles from the shoreline, outside of Virginia's territorial sea. The two selected borrow areas within Sandbridge Shoal are Area B to the north and Area A to the south; depths range from 30 to 65 feet. Beach quality sand would most likely be removed by trailing suction hopper dredge. The hopper dredge is equipped with dragheads and a hopper which collects sand. When the hopper is full, material is transported to a 2 pump out buoy located offshore and then pumped through a discharge pipeline. The pipeline runs along the ocean floor and up onto the beach where bulldozers and graders will distribute the material. Approximately 1.5 to 2.0 million cubic yards (cy) of beach quality sand would be placed on the beach approximately every 3 years depending upon weather conditions, availability of funding, and behavior of subsequently placed material at the project site.

A federal consistency determination has been submitted for this proposal which finds it consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the enforceable policies of the Virginia Coastal Resources Management Program (VCP).

### **HOW TO COMMENT:**

DEQ accepts comments from the public by e-mail, fax or postal mail. All comments must include the name, address and telephone number of the person commenting and be received by DEQ within the comment period. The public may review the project documents at DEQ's Central Office in Richmond.

### **CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

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